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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

on 04/02/2002  
Date

Craig M. Stainbrook (Reg. No. 45,126)



Attorney Docket No: 00434.P2

#7 And A  
4/29/02  
[Signature]

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: SIMON, Richard D., et al.

Examiner: Cecil, T.

Serial No.: 09/642,249

Art Unit: 1723

Filed: 08/17/00

Title: GRAVITY FLOW SLUDGE  
LOAD-OUT SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**AMENDMENT A**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 10/02/01, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please delete the entire paragraph beginning at page 6, line 21, and replace it with the following paragraph:

In automatic mode the load-out operator uses a touchpad or key pad at the operator interface station to input truck and customer identification information and intended load weights. The touchpad transmits this data to the PLC where it is integrated to effect metering gate

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